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Kassite and Sumerian Seals

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#### 7. EARLY PERSIAN POTTERY FROM NIHAVAND.

THE Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities has acquired recently a number of vases of painted pottery from Nihavand in Western Persia, of the early Bronze Age. This pottery is nearly related to that of the second city of Susa, and may be dated about 2500 B.C. Besides geometric and trees and leaf motives, the painters were very fond of birds, especially a flying eagle (?), which becomes stylized to a remarkable degree. Plate V *a* shows the bird in an unusually naturalistic form; Plate V *b* shows the formal stylizing of the design, on which it is only just possible to recognize the head and wings of the bird. The forms of the vases distinctly show the influence of metal prototypes. With this early ware were acquired some smaller vases of somewhat later date with plainer or no decoration (Plate V *c*). The tallest vase in Plate V *b* is 11 inches (27.9 cm.) high. Plate V *a* is 8½ inches (21.6 cm.) high.

H. R. H.

#### 8. PERSIAN DAGGERS: EARLY BRONZE AGE.

TWO copper or bronze daggers have also been acquired from Nihavand, with hilts unusually long in proportion to the blades. They are in one piece with the blade, in the Caucasian-Persian fashion, and had inlaid handles, probably of ivory or fine wood. The longer is 14½ inches (36.75 cm.) long, with handle 5½ inches (14 cm.) in length. The smaller is broken. (Plate IV *b*.)

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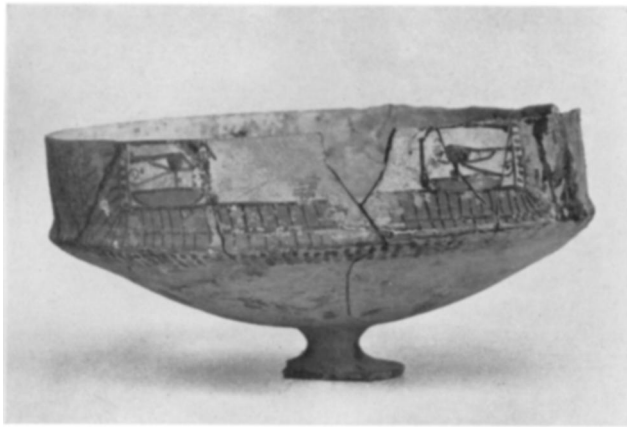
#### 9. KASSITE AND SUMERIAN SEALS.

A FINE cylinder-seal of green felspar, of the Kassite period, has recently been bought. The design is of two lions fighting: the inscription is a dedication to the Kassite god Shugamuna. Length 1½ inch (3.75 cm.). (Plate IV *d*.) Two small Sumerian stamp-seals have also been bought (Plate IV *e, f*) with roughly cut scenes of a worshipper and his god (⅝ inch, 1.6 cm.: ¾ inch, 2.25 cm.).

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#### 10. A RELIEF OF SARAPIS.

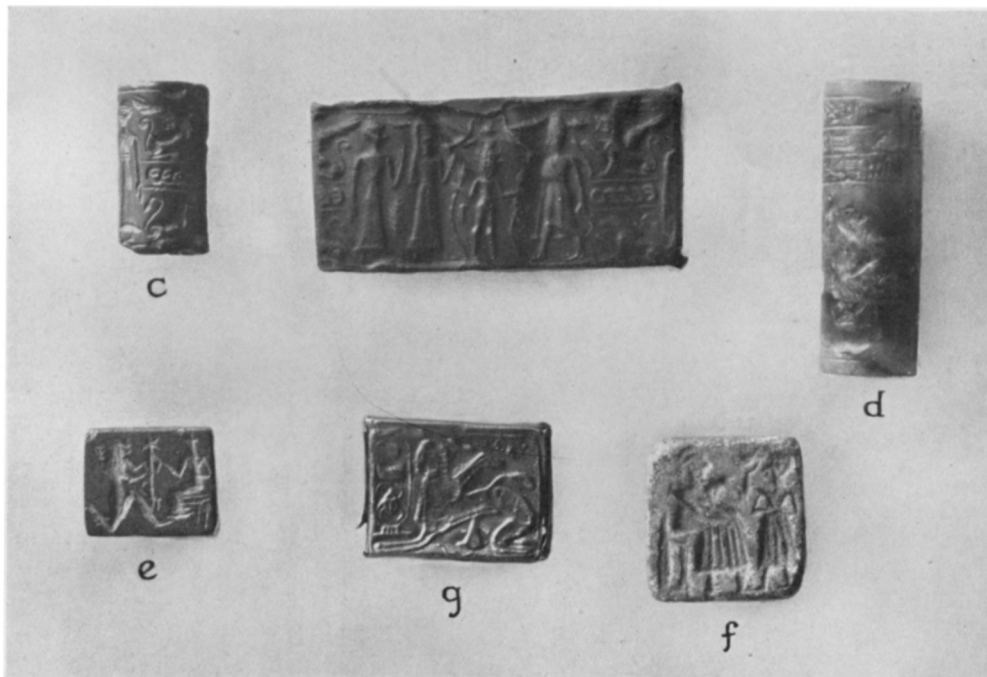
THE Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities has acquired an interesting representation of the god Sarapis (Plate VI), which takes the form of a basalt disk from Egypt, on the front of



*a*



*b*



IV *a.* KYLIX OF AMARNA PERIOD.

*b.* BRONZE AGE DAGGERS FROM NIHAVAND.

*c.* HITTITE CYLINDER-SEAL.

*d.* KASSITE CYLINDER-SEAL.

*e, f.* SUMERIAN STAMP-SEALS.

*g.* PHOENICIAN AMULET-CASE.